

League of Women Voters of Pulaski County

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TO: Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

RE: Act 575

The League of Women Voters Pulaski County has deep concern about the finance assurance requirements for rural wastewater treatment plants in Act 575.

These treatment plants are expected to provide wastewater treatment for the life of the subdivision, which could be as long as one hundred years. To deliver service over such a long time requires on going equipment maintenance and expensive and expensive capital improvements.

It is essential to the health and safety of citizens living in rural subdivisions that their treatment plants have adequate financial resources to maintain and upgrade them, and to cover costs of damage from plant failure.

The financial assurances in Act 575 are totally inadequate. The State should require that professional actuaries develop an adequate assurance plan, with fee schedule to support it, into which rural wastewater plants would pay. Until such a fiscally sound assurance plan is in place, no rural wastewater plants should be permitted.

Carol Young,
Convener